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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Germany (Soviet Zone)

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East Germans Not To Prevent Mass Flights
of Refugees/Signs of End of Trade Offensive
Against West

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The only people who are satisfied with the Berlin Conference are the East German communists because they now regard their regime as secure for years to come.
2. They will do nothing to prevent a new mass flight to West Germany because they would rather be rid of their bitter opponents and the stress of the refugees causes more trouble to the Federal Republic than their loss occasions the East Germans. They will probably tighten up their collectivization measures in agriculture again in order to drive the peasants either to flight to West Germany or into the collective farms.
3. It is not quite certain whether the new Soviet German-USSR Trade Agreement will mean the end to the export offensive against the West. In any case, inquiries from the West for prices on cement, chemicals, etc, which were encouraged up to a short time ago, have been left unanswered for some days. Only part deliveries are being made of orders already placed. In several cases the East German offices have even refused to forward the shipping documents for goods already lying in Hamburg and Bremen.

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